

THE NEWS THE GOSS THE PICS THE SPORT

DAILY STAR

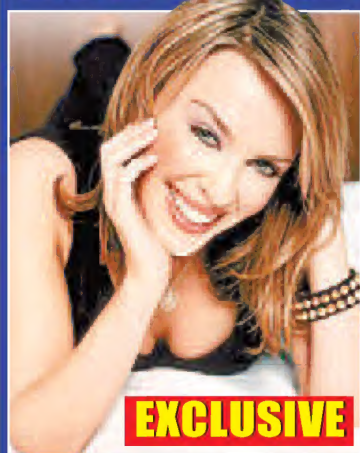
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2004

SIMPLY THE BEST 7 DAYS A WEEK 35p

Corrie Tina's a fruity cutie

• PAGE 34

KYLIE



EXCLUSIVE

**Ex-lover to
reveal sex
secrets in
the jungle**

**REALITY TV SPECIAL
PAGES 6 & 7**

**SEXY
NEW
CELEB
PICS**



OUR BOYS TARGET OF ROCKET ATTACKS

• PAGE 2

COLLY BEATEN TO A PULP

EXCLUSIVE

SHAMED ex-England
soccer star Stan
Collymore has claimed
up to eight rugby aces
beat him up and broke
his nose in a savage
attack early yesterday.
Full story: Pages 4 & 5



'EIGHT top rugby stars bust my nose'

Watch hit by new tragedy



A BRITISH soldier was found dead at a military base in Basra yesterday as reinforcements continued to pour into the region. "An investigation into the death is ongoing, but it is not believed to be the result of any hostile action," the Ministry of Defence said. The death came after Private Kevin Thomas McHale, pictured left, of the 1st Battalion became the first

fatality of the Black Watch move to their new base. The 27-year-old from Fife was killed after a vehicle accident in the North Babil Province which did not involve hostile action. A further three soldiers suffered minor injuries and shock in the incident. Yesterday supply convoys poured north to the Black Watch in Iraq's Triangle of Death – past an ominous "one way" sign.

Pictures: PAREUTERS



HELL STORM

Our Boys face barrage

FANATICS have launched a non-stop barrage from hell against Black Watch troops in Iraq's Triangle of Death.

Militant mastermind Abu Moussab Al-Zarqawi has ordered his blood-thirsty followers to go all-out to kill British soldiers.

And one senior officer said last night that 1,000 heavily armed rebels were in the area and determined to strike.

He said of Zarqawi, the Jordanian behind the murder of Ken Bigley: "He sees us as fair game." The 850-strong

by PADRAIC FLANAGAN in BASRA

Black Watch battle group has faced attacks every night since it arrived on Friday at Camp Dogwood, 25 miles south-west of Baghdad.

The troops came under renewed bombardment from rockets and mortars last night.

And the senior officer said it was clear the rebels were out to test the strength of the Black Watch and claim a "spectacular" – the death of a British soldier.

He said: "Our troops have been told to look out for roadside bombs set off by remote control or command wires, vehicle-borne bombs or suicide bombers.

"All these methods are common in this region."

There were more attacks against the British yesterday in the southern city of Basra, the administrative centre for our 8,500 troops.

Task

The fanatics targeted camps and vehicles and fired rockets at a coalition HQ at Basra airport.

The upsurge in violence is seen as a reaction to the Black Watch's support for the US mission to take control of rebel stronghold Fallujah, west of Baghdad.

A key task for the Black Watch will be to close a "rat-run" used as a supply and escape route by terrorists between Fallujah and Baghdad.



Picture: ENTERPRISE NEWS

Bravery of Brit hostage

THIS is the first snap of kidnapped Brit UN worker Annetta Flanagan. Annetta, of Co Armagh, and two pals were paraded on film yesterday after being snatched in Afghanistan. Militant Muslims have said they'll kill them and Annetta is seen being told to cry for the camera, but she replies: "I can't cry anymore."

Three arrests have been made in connection with the kidnappings.

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StarBets

MEGA 12-PAGE BETTING PULLOUT
Starts Page 35

VANESSA 13 ● CATCHPOLE 27
GOSS 16-17 ● TELLY 36-39
HOT 20-21 ● JANE 40

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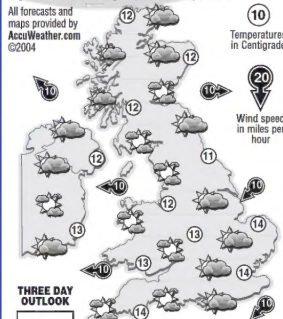
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INFO STATION

TODAY: A misty start to the day for most places in the United Kingdom, then mainly dry with bright and sunny intervals. The best of sunshine will be over Wales and south-west England. A shower in western Scotland.

OUTLOOK: Dry with sunny intervals across Scotland to the northern regions of England and Northern Ireland. From south-east England to south-west England, showers are possible.

All forecasts and maps provided by AccuWeather.com ©2004



THREE DAY OUTLOOK

Tuesday
A shower

Wednesday
Showers

Thursday
Some sun

POUND ABROAD

Australia 2.45 dollars
Canada 2.25 dollars
Cyprus 0.84 pounds
Czech Republic 45.40 korunas
Mexico 21.37 pesos
South Africa 11.32 rand
Thailand 75.58 baht
Turkey 2753769 lira
United States 1.84 dollars

EURO

Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland, Portugal, Spain € 1.44

ABROAD

Alicante cloudy 17c (62f) N. York sunny 17c (62f)
Corfu fair 30c (86f) Nice rain 15c (59f)
Dublin cloudy 13c (55f) Paris fair 12c (53f)
L. Angeles sunny 26c (79f) Rhodes sunny 27c (80f)
Majorca showers 17c (62f) Rome thundery 23c (73f)
Miami showers 31c (88f) Tenerife sunny 21c (70f)

Star Weather

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Holiday weather 0905 062 3823

Calls cost 60p/min from a BT landline

LOTTO DAILY PLAY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

4 6 8 9 12 14 18

Two tickets matched all 7 balls for the £30,000 prize

SATURDAY LOTTO

OCTOBER 30

3 8 9 26 27 47 45

Two ticket holders won the £4.5m jackpot

EXTRA: 21, 24, 25, 30, 31, 41 T'Ball: 11, 16, 28, 29 (T'5)

No Extra winners. Two T'Ball winners get £250,000

WEDNESDAY LOTTO

OCTOBER 27

9, 11, 21, 39, 40, 46 Bonus Ball: 35

Two tickets share the £3.2m jackpot.

EXTRA: 3, 4, 21, 22, 43, 44 T'Ball: 4, 6, 12, 14, 16 (T'5)

No one won the £1.7m jackpot. No £250k T'Ball winners.

EURO LOTTO

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

1, 8, 32, 35, 38 Lucky Star Numbers 4, 9

NEWSPAPERS
SUPPORT
RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up
63.5% of the raw material for
UK newspapers in 2000

Charlotte

HERE'S a real treat for your eyes if you're all tricked out following your Halloween revels. Sexy Charlotte, 20, from Ipswich, still looks bright-eyed and ready for fun, even after a heavy night out with the ghouls.

Picture: JEANY SAVAGE

ELTON I SCREAM LIKE THE EXORCIST

Star is 'possessed' by rage

by IMOGEN LILLYWHITE

FOUL-MOUTHED superstar Sir Elton John has compared his public outbursts to scenes from *The Exorcist*.

The 57-year-old said he was consumed by rage like the girl possessed by the devil in the classic horror flick.

The child, played by Linda Blair, screams at her mother in four-letter tirades and vomits green slime.

Elton described when he and partner David Furnish were trapped in Liz Hurley's house by paparazzi after her son was born.

Hate

He revealed: "The venom comes out. It's a bit like *The Exorcist*."

The star blames his anger on an irrational rage that springs from his past as an alcoholic and cocaine addict and from being a creative person.

He said: "There are still times, especially when I'm tired, when the bad temper and the irrationality come out."

"And I hate that. Because I'm trying to change it. The chink in my armour is still there. I don't seem to have anger - I have rage." Elton also admitted being



DEVILISH: Elton, and left, Linda Blair in *The Exorcist*



"ashamed" of his outbursts. He once screamed "f***" 20 times in the face of a lackey.

The star called photographers "rude vile pigs" at an airport in Taiwan last month. And when Madonna was nominated for best live act at a recent awards ceremony he stormed: "Best f***ing live act? F*** off."

Sir Elton was yesterday voted the most self-indulgent celebrity of all time in a poll by Domino's Pizza.

The Star Says: Page 6

Kids' birthday bling

PARENTS are suffering the "P Diddy Effect" as children demand their entire school year are invited to birthday parties.

Half the 3,500 parents surveyed by internet bank Smile said they'd spend £500 on a fifth birthday bash. And London-based children's party planner Peter Robertson said: "The influence of celebrities means that they are getting more extravagant."

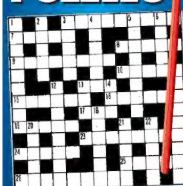
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TACKLE TWO FAB PAGES OF PUZZLES



HOURS OF FUN
SEE PAGES 54-55



RACIAL JIBES: Collymore says he was confronted in the nightclub

COLLY

Shamed soccer star's nose broken in bust-up

■ by IAIN BURCHELL

SHAMED former soccer star Stan Collymore last night claimed he was beaten up by a group of rugby players.

He needed hospital treatment for facial injuries, including a broken nose, after a punch-up in a Dublin burger bar yesterday.

The ex-England striker told police his attackers were players from top rugby team Bath - in Ireland for a European Cup tie.

Collymore claims one of the rugby aces taunted him with racial jibes in front of James Bond star Pierce Brosnan at a showbiz bash, before up to eight of them set upon him.

He has given the Garda, the Irish police, the name of several players he says assaulted him and will make another statement to English police today.

Collymore, who disgraced himself by beating up telly beauty Ulrika Jonsson in a Paris bar during the 1998 World Cup, was in Dublin promoting his new warts-and-all autobiography.

He headed for celebrity haunt Lillie's Bordello for an after-show party after appearing on a telly chat-show.

Collymore was with 007 star Brosnan, who was also a guest on the show, when one player allegedly came up to him and made a racist comment.

Shocked drinkers looked on as the ugly confrontation sparked a scuffle. Bouncers had to step in to stop the pushing and shoving and the rugby players were told to leave.

Punching

Collymore, 33, stayed at the club until about 3.30am as he tried to put the bust-up out of his mind.

But as he made his way back to his hotel he decided to stop off at a fast food joint - only to allegedly run into the players who were eating inside.

Collymore claims up to eight players piled into him, punching him and knocking him to the floor.

Horried restaurant staff called the police, but although they arrived within minutes the attackers had already fled.

Irish sources say Collymore was initially unwilling to co-operate with police, but was eventually persuaded to go to hospital and to make a statement.

A source said: "He was quite abusive and did not want to say what happened."

"But after being calmed down he agreed to go to hospital and to make a statement."

Collymore discharged himself from hospital a few hours after being treated and was later questioned by police.

A police spokesman said officers were continuing to investigate the allegations and revealed they may watch CCTV footage from the restaurant as part of their inquiry.

He said: "The matter is under investigation and is being treated seriously."

Collymore's agent Simon Kennedy



ATTACK: Stan ended up in hospital after the incident in Burger King



said last night: "Stan will be meeting his solicitor tomorrow and going to a police station to make statements alleging physical and racial attacks."

"We are planning to take a civil action against the people involved."

"Stan at no time started anything. He is the innocent party in this case. He would like to thank the Garda who were very good and treated him extremely well."

In a statement last night, Bath Rugby Club general manager Bob Calleja said: "We are not prepared to comment at present until we've considered all the facts."

A spokesman for the club said that a fuller statement may be made today.

Bath crashed to a 30-11 defeat to Leicester in front of almost 19,000 fans at Ireland's national stadium, Lansdowne Road.

They are one of England's leading clubs and have a squad packed with international stars.

The side that faced Leicester included England World Cup hero Mike Tindall, boyfriend of Princess Anne's daughter Zara Phillips.

Ollie Barkley, a rising star tipped to take over from Jonny Wilkinson in England's key number 10 shirt, kicked two penalties in the match.

Bath are captained by tough tack-

ling former Wales skipper Jon Humphreys and include 15st South African Robbie Fleck in their ranks.

Their most fearsome players include lock Danny Grewcock, a 6ft 6in giant, and Steve Borthwick, who tips the scales at 18st 2lb.

There was no suggestion last night that any of these particular players were involved in the fracas.

Dogger

Collymore had his nose broken in another night club bust-up four years ago in Birmingham.

Earlier this year he was exposed as a dogger - someone who has sex with strangers or watches other couples romp in public places.

Collymore was back at his luxury £500,000 home in Cannock, Staffs, last night.

After ignoring calls on the house's intercom for most of the day, he sped off in his black BMW 4x4, before returning a short while later in a taxi and rushing back inside.

Collymore, who has battled depression, recently showed his short fuse when he appeared on Five's reality TV show The Farm.

Before storming off the programme, the self-confessed sex addict almost came to blows with fellow farmhand Vanilla Ice.

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Documentation is available in Large print, Audio and Braille on request. Communication can also be made using the BT TYPETALK Service Line or the Textphone Service on 0870 600 1303

NORBBLED

Record song is so Fab

A RARE disc featuring three of the Fab Four is the world's most valuable record at £100,000, top collectors have revealed.

Sir Paul McCartney owns the fragile first pressing of The Quarrymen's 1958 version of 'That'll Be The Day'.

It cost just 90p to record in a terrace house in Liverpool. McCartney made the song in the makeshift studio with four other teenagers, including John Lennon and George Harrison.

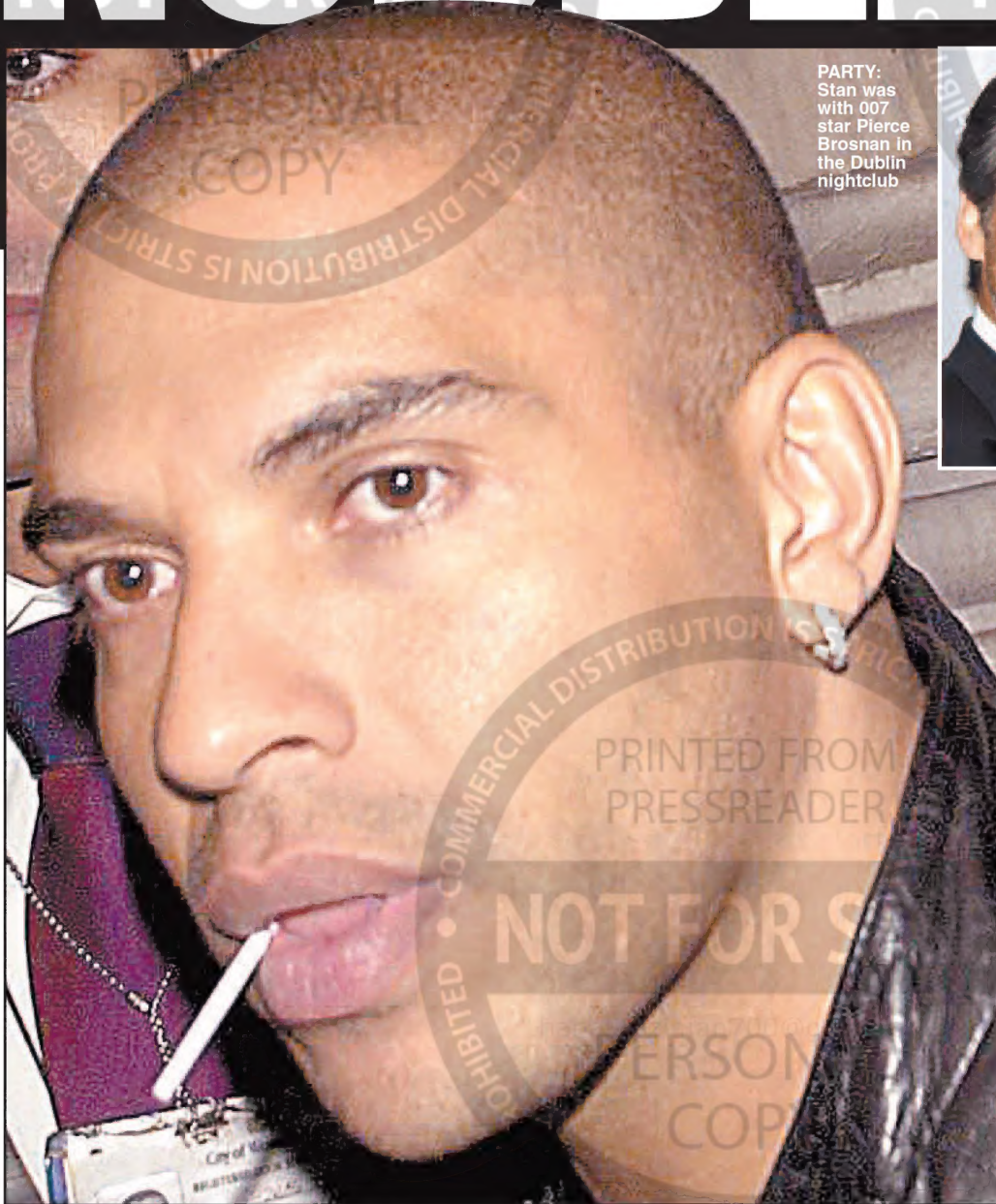
Record Collector magazine says the song was put on to a 10-inch acetate disc rather than tape because the hard-up group wanted to do it on the cheap.

The B-side also features the only known song written by McCartney and Harrison, which is called In Spite Of All The Danger.

KAY'S COFFIN FIT

FACTORY worker Kay Groom, 42, has a strange way to relax - by lying in a coffin at her home in Swaffham, Norfolk.

PARTY:
Stan was
with 007
star Pierce
Brosnan in
the Dublin
nightclub



INJURED: Star four years ago

NIGHTS OF FIGHTS

IT'S not the first time Colly has come a cropper in a nightclub. Four years ago, he was knocked to the ground and given a bloody nose inside a Birmingham club.

He and his five attackers were ejected by bouncers but Collymore took a battering outside and was left bruised and bleeding.

Fans of Birmingham City, rivals of one of Collymore's old clubs Aston Villa, were blamed for the assault which happened while he

was playing for Bradford. In a rollercoaster career, the ex-England player was involved in transfers totalling £20 million - including £8.5m to Liverpool - and once earned up to £20,000 a week.

In 1995, he was cleared of assault after being racially abused outside a nightclub in his home town of Cannock, Staffs.

Three years later, he was cleared of assaulting former girlfriend Michelle Green. In the same year,

he beat up new squeeze, TV star Ulrika Jonsson, in a Paris bar.

Earlier this year, he escaped prosecution after allegedly threatening to kill his estranged wife Estelle.

Charges relating to an incident at her parents' home in Cannock were withdrawn.

The couple have a daughter but the marriage hit the rocks when Collymore was caught at a car park used by "doggers" - people looking for casual sex with strangers.

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DAILY STAR
says

Casinos a safe bet

CULTURE Secretary Tessa Jowell has decided to stick when she should be twisting.

Terrified by a backlash from the goody-goodies, she's lost confidence in her gambling Bill and is preparing to water it down.

The naysayers forget the absolutely crucial point – having a bet is fun and exciting.

Folk enjoy a punt and always will. And if you want to become a gambling addict there's very little to stop you in Britain today.

You can hit the bookies, casinos, a bingo hall, an amusement arcade or the internet.

Betting in upscale surroundings with top entertainment laid on would be better – and brilliant for the British economy.

The last time we were going to become a nation of gambling addicts was a decade ago when the National Lottery was launched.

It celebrated its 10th birthday yesterday and has become an essential part of British life.

We seem to have survived unscathed.

And we can handle the fun of supercasinos too.

Spin's out of control

DAVID Blunkett is the best-looking, best-dancing, best-singing politician it has ever been our fortune to have.

Don't think so?

Then he can hardly be getting good value for the £1.9MILLION he lashes out on spin doctors every year.

For that money we'd expect the press to be revealing that Nicole Kidman wanted his babies and Sven Goran Eriksson is on his knees, begging the Home Secretary to win him the next World Cup.

The cash pays for 39 press officers when it could finance 30 coppers on the beat.

Which would you rather have?

Sick of Elt

SIR Elton John reckons he gets so angry he's like the kid in the Exorcist who projectile vomits green slime.

That would still be better than his Candle In the Wind remake.

OFFICIAL REALITY TV PAPER



FAVOURITE: Rocker Tabby Callaghan, seen with girlfriend Anna Leask, is given best chance by the bookies

Swap wives snap

■ by MARK JEFFERIES

AN amazing bust-up on this week's Wife Swap ends with lazy Becky Fairhurst telling opposite number Jacqui Thomas: "Why don't you just slit your wrists?"

Blonde Becky, 29, is angry when she gets back to her Burnley council house and sees strict Jacqui, 39, has made changes and redecorated. And she's unhappy that long-term lover Jason Hill agrees with Jacqui.

Viewers will have to wait until tomorrow to see the most explosive episode ever of the reality show.

But the Daily Star, the official reality TV paper, has already seen it.

Vicious

Becky launches into a vicious verbal assault on Jacqui, who lives in a spotless four-bedroom home in Peterborough.

And Jason ends up storming out of the discussion...and out of their 12-year relationship.

In the final scene, Becky and Jason are briefly reunited when they have to sit around a table with the Thomases.

Jacqui tells Becky she was "horrified and disgusted" playing her role.

Verity slams X Factor judge war

STITCH UP!

OUSTED X Factor wannabe Verity Keays fears she was the victim of a judges' war.

And the game 50-year-old thinks the other "golden oldies", Steve Brookstein, 35, and Rowetta Satchell, 38, could be next for the chop.

Verity was booted off the ITV talent series on Saturday after she and duo 2 To Go polled the fewest votes.

Judges Simon Cowell, Louis Walsh and Sharon Osbourne had to choose who stayed.

Louis picked his protégés 2 To Go, Simon picked Verity – his own nominated act.

But Verity believes casting-vote Sharon then axed HER to get back at Mr Nasty Simon because, the previous week, he had kicked out Sharon's singer, Roberta Howett.

Upset Verity, of Grimsby, Lincs, said yesterday: "I think

EXCLUSIVE

■ by PETER DYKE

I was a victim of the judges' silly war with one another and I'm worried for my friends.

"I think Sharon and Louis's battle against Simon is getting in the way of the show.

"It's going to be bad if this carries on until the end."

Talent

Steve and Rowetta are also Cowell's protégés. And Verity fears Sharon and Louis could now "ignore their singing talent" to stop ANY one of Simon's acts winning.

She added: "It would be better if they could just keep it with a public vote."

Bookies Ladbrokes make Sharon's rock singer, Tabby Callaghan, the new favourite to win the X Factor – with odds of 2-1.



KICKED OUT: Verity Keays lost vote



WEE DEVIL: Sharon

SI'S WELL PEED OFF

X FACTOR judge Simon Cowell was left a special gift on the show – a puddle of wee from Sharon Osbourne's dog.

Cowell was horrified to find that Minnie, her fluffy Pomeranian, had gone to the loo under his chair. The incident

occurred when he spotted a pool of water during rehearsals before the live show on Saturday.

The 45-year-old record boss demanded to know what it was – fearing it might be a leak in the building in London.

But Sharon stood there

giggling and told him it was a gift from the dog.

A show source said: "Simon was stunned.

When Sharon told him, he was not very happy." Although animals aren't allowed on set, no one was brave enough to ask her to take Minnie outside.

Stars knifed on TV

■ by KATIE BEGLEY

WE could soon be seeing more of our favourite stars in a new TV series showing them going under the surgeon's knife.

Producers of Channel 4's hit show 10 Years Younger are lining up a host of celebs to give them free cosmetic surgery – and it will be filmed live.

Those being targeted include Oasis frontman Noel Gallagher's ex-wife, Meg Mathews, "cheap as chips" David Dickinson and Ennmerdale's Sherrie Hewson.

If they sign up to the new show, they can have a variety of treatments from eye-bag removal and acid peels to "trout pout" lip enhancements.

TV company Maverick is making the celebrity version of the series that was a hit earlier this year.

Meg, 36, a former PR girl, has allegedly spent £17,000 on plastic surgery and Sherrie, 33, has revealed that she wants her neck and lower jaw lifted.

Bargain Hunt presenter Dickinson, 63, will be more difficult to convince after saying that people look like "silly buggers" after surgery.

REALITY TV PAPER

JUNGLE JIM TO SPILL
KYLIE SEX
SECRETS

EXCLUSIVE

by PETER DYKE Mr REALITY TV

KYLIE'S ex-lover James Gooding is set to spill all their sex secrets down in the jungle.

The hunky model, who dated Kylie for two years but famously cheated on her, is the latest signing by I'm A Celebrity bosses.

They were desperate to get the love rat Down Under in the hope he'll open up with all the saucy details about his relationship with pop babe Kylie.

Last night a show source said: "It's a real coup for us to get James and it's no secret he had a rocky time with Kylie."

"We hope that, just like Alex Best in the last series, he will start telling all about what went on behind closed doors."

"And I can imagine that's probably Kylie's worst nightmare. The other good thing about having James is that he's eye candy for the girls and a real flirt."

James, 29, will be flying out to Australia in two weeks in preparation for the new series of the ITV show - hosted by Ant and Dec.

The couple dated for two years and were even tipped to wed at one point and start a family together.

However red-blooded James' wandering eye kept landing him in hot water with Kylie, 36. He was exposed for having flings with a string of beauties - including Sophie Dahl, Martine McCutcheon and Davinia Taylor while they were still dating.

Tearful Kylie grew tired of his infidelity and they split in the spring of 2002.

Numb

The sexy pop star admitted she was devastated that their romance was over and said: "There have been a lot of tears."

She added: "I'm numb. I can't imagine him not being a part of my life."

"My career in the last year has just exploded and what has happened is I've become so dedicated to that."

"Unfortunately that has been to the detriment of our relationship."

Jamie, who has appeared in ads for L'Oréal and the Peugeot 206, later said the split made him sink into a deep depression and he was close to cracking up.

He said: "I felt I was on the verge of a breakdown."

"Kylie didn't bother to see or call me."

And he blasted the pop sex kitten - claiming she was more interested in her career than him.

He added: "She turned

into a self-obsessed control freak, desperate to pursue her ambitions."

However he won few friends for spilling the beans about their relationship and was branded a love rat.

Recently, when asked if he thought Kylie would find happiness with new man, actor Olivier Martinez,

James said: "She'll have to change if she wants to make this really work."

"I fear she's going to end up a lonely spinster with only a cat by her side for company."

Dating

A show source said: "We think James has lots, lots more to say about dating Kylie - and what she is really like away from the pop star image."

"She will no doubt want to tune in to see what he has to say about their relationship, which was very explosive at times."

Kylie was out and about at the weekend, enjoying a dance with Scissor Sisters' frontman Jake Shears at the Trans and Tango Charity Ball in London's Mayfair.

Other stars who have signed up for a stint in the jungle include

squeaky-voiced comic Joe Pasquale, East 17 singer and former pop bad boy Brian Harvey and Gossard model and ex-druggie Sophie Anderton.

Joining them will be Swedish blonde bombshell and glamour girl Victoria Silvstedt and Three Degrees songbird and West End star Sheila Ferguson.

LOVERS: Kylie and James



CHARITY BASH: Kylie and Jake



CATTY: Julian

'Strict bitch' Jules

STRICTLY Come Dancing host Natasha Kaplinsky hit the roof after camp comic Julian Catty claimed she looked "like a hooker" on the show.

The 31-year-old co-presenter of the top BBC series threw a fit off-camera after contestant Julian, 45, looked at her and bitched: "I thought you were wearing a hooker's outfit."

Natasha struggled to smile as co-host Bruce Forsyth tried calm things down on Saturday night's show.

He said: "I don't know what he means. I hope he doesn't mistake me for a pimp then."

OUR VICKY IS STRICTLY BALLROOM
Pages 30-31

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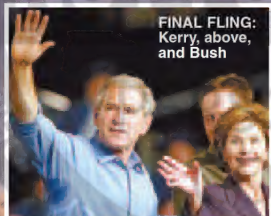
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IN SHAPE:
Pop babe
Kylie is all
smiles on
the way to
a west
London
gym at the
weekend





Pictures: REUTERS/AP/GETTY



FINAL FLING: Kerry, above, and Bush

MOVING AMERICA FORWARD

Bush has a final push

THE race for the White House remained too close both opponents began their final sprint finish.

Polls last night showed President George Bush ahead but nobody was predicting Tuesday's result.

Bush and rival John Kerry tried to turn the surprise video appearance of Osama bin Laden to their advantage.

Bush told a rally: "The terrorists who killed thousands of innocent people are still dangerous."

Kerry said: "It was wrong to give the job of capturing him to Afghan warlords."

PM Tony Blair looks set to call a general election in February if elections planned for Iraq in January go well.



12 METRO Wednesday October 13, 2004

Coldest winter in years on the way

A BIG freeze set to be Britain's coldest winter in years could begin next week, forecasters said yesterday. A series of cold snaps – one a month – and plummeting temperatures are predicted.

During December and January, maximum temperatures could be just 6°C (43°F) in London and 4°C (39°F) in the North – making it one of the coldest winters after 1947 and 1963.

We forecast you should take care this winter

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BETCHA TESS IS BOTTLER

Casino critics call her bluff

by NEIL CHANDLER

Culture Secretary Tessa Jowell was folding under pressure last night over plans for British super-casinos.

The under-fire minister said she would be prepared to water down the gambling Bill ahead of a crucial Parliamentary vote today.

She acknowledged that the public had serious concerns about its potential impact. And she pledged: "I will take very seriously constructive proposals for improving this Bill."

Vital

Critics insist the changes – including new super-casinos – will increase gambling addiction and could lure serious criminals into the industry.

The Government argues it is vital to modernise regulation. Ms Jowell was asked why she would not put a cap on the number of mega-casinos.

She said: "There are problems with imposing a cap. It becomes very rigid." Miss Jowell said the Bill would ensure proper regulation of new forms of gambling.

And she insisted that it hadn't been designed to raise revenue.

Shadow culture secretary John Whittingdale said her words signalled "a Government in retreat".

The Star Says: Page 6



UNDER FIRE: Tessa Jowell

Winners play safe

MILLIONAIRE Lottery winners are investing their jackpots instead of splashing out.

A survey of winners to mark the 10th anniversary of the National Lottery shows they put £700million into property and the stock market last year.

In the past many of the instant millionaires bought flash cars, designer gear and treats. But only £60m went on goods that are unlikely to increase in value.

Lisa Dougan, 17, of West Lothian, showed the trend and bought a house after winning £1.5m in March. She said: "I'm also going to college because I'm bored."

KERRY ADMITS: YES I'VE HAD FLING, BRIAN

... and now I'm more confused than ever



COSY: Kerry and old flame Dan in a cab after their nightclub party

Picture: J. TAYLOR-BRETT / XPOSURE

WARY DELTA'S 'NO' TO LOVE

SEXY songbird Delta Goodrem has left besotted Brian McFadden devastated after telling him she could never date a love cheat.

Close friend Delta, 19, is "very fond" of the 24-year-old chart-topper but she's told him there is no chance of their relationship getting serious.

The former Neighbours star said Brian's dalliance with a stripper on his stag night ruled out romance and she had more sympathy with his wife Kerry. Aussie

Delta is still distraught over claims by Paris Hilton that tennis ace Mark Philippoussis, 27, dumped her for the US heiress.

And a friend of the singer said: "She's gutted about the break-up with Mark and doesn't want a relationship with someone who has a bad track record."



NO ROMANCE: Delta

by MARIANNA PARTASIDES

SEXY Kerry McFadden was so racked with guilt over her night of lust with a male model that she rang estranged husband Brian to tell him ALL.

She wept as she spilled the beans about her bonk with ex-boyfriend Dan Corsi in a luxury London hotel.

And now friends say she can't make up her mind whether Dan's the man for her.

Her PR guru Max Clifford confided last night: "One minute she's happy about it, then she's not."

"She's very mixed up and emotional right now. She needs someone she feels comfortable with."

"Her emotions are all over the place. She doesn't know what she wants."

I'm A Celebrity winner Kerry, 24, got together with Dan, 29, in a three-day "party break".

The two flirted openly during a drunken night at swanky nightclub Pangaea before going back together to Kerry's £400-a-night room at the Mountbatten Hotel.

Just 24 hours later, they met again for a touchy-feely afternoon in chic Covent Garden.

Kerry was beaming with delight. So it must have seemed like a good idea at the time.

But soon she was on the phone to former Westlife star Brian, who dumped her in a phone call five weeks ago.

According to Clifford, Brian reassured her it was all "OK".

And another friend said: "I don't know why she told Brian. Maybe she felt she was getting back at him."

"It's almost as though she needed to do this to get it out of her system."

Special

"But, with Dan and Kerry, it could be special because those two have a history. They've been here before and had a good time."

"At the moment, this is just what she needs - attention and affection."

Yesterday, mum-of-two Kerry was making her way back to Warrington, Cheshire, where she's been living with her mum since the break-up with Brian.

Pals said the trip to London had been a chance to let her hair down and catch up with Dan.

She first met him on a Smash Hits tour when he was part of boyband Northern Line and she was in Atomic Kitten.

He has been a shoulder to cry on ever since.

Kerry turned to him when details came out of Brian's sordid stag night with a lapdancer.

He was also one of the first to know she was pregnant.

Clifford said: "I think they'll be seeing each other again. She is a single person now - so watch this space."



CALLED: Husband Brian

Blunko £1.9m on spin

by JAMES SLACK
SPENDING on spin doctors for David Blunkett has quadrupled to £1.9 million.

News of the massive bill slipped out last night - and was immediately attacked by the Tories.

They said the cash could have paid for an extra 30 police officers instead.

The figures, revealed in a written parliamentary answer, will re-ignite claims the Home Secretary is obsessed with spin.

Gun

When Labour came to power in 1997, there were 16 Home Office press officers, costing £369,000.

Now they've spiralled to 39. A big chunk of the cash is for a news desk to handle media calls around the clock.

Shadow Home Secretary David Davis said: "Gun, drug and knife crime are all up. No amount of spin can hide that."

Home Office Minister Fiona Mactaggart said: "Of the 67,070 press calls received in a year, 91.8% were answered."

The Star Says: Page 6

ANNOUNCEMENT

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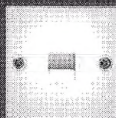
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STAR NEWS

NEW HOPE ON KILLER SUPERBUG

Docs get new drug

■ by TOM MORGAN
DOCTORS will today unveil a "super antibiotic" which they claim is 100% effective against killer hospital bug MRSA.

The drug, called tigecycline, proved to be more effective at destroying the deadly bacteria in laboratory tests than current treatments.

Professor Peter Hawkey from the West Midlands Public Health Laboratory



HELP: Reid

halled the antibiotic as "a real life saver", adding: "These results are extremely encouraging and exciting."

It is thought 100,000 people a year get MRSA in hospital - and 20,000 of them die.

But the new treatment - due to reach the UK within 18 months - will help health minister John Reid fight the lethal bug.

Liberal Democrats health spokesman Paul Burstow welcomed the amazing antibiotic but warned: "It must not give rise to further complacency regarding hygiene and bad practice."

The drug is being unveiled today at the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy in Washington, USA.



Picture: GRANTWHEELMATRIX

Mind the bumps!

■ **BABY'S** due any day now - but that didn't stop pregnant EastEnders star Jessie Wallace, 33, going out shopping for a motorbike with fiancé Dave Morgan, 29, in London. Let's hope they remembered a little sidecar.

'ONE'S BEEN RIPPED ORF'

A TOP toff has called in police to probe claims that staff at his stately home have been ripping him off for millions of pounds since the 1980s.

The 11th Duke of Marlborough wants

detectives to investigate alleged scams at his Blenheim Palace home.

A source close to the 78-year-old duke said: "We have suspicions that there are one or two scams being run."

Thames Valley police officers were called in after an internal investigation. The source said they were examining accounts.

One of the alleged scams involves the use of "money-off" vouchers.



BOND HOPES: Jackman Hugh's the new Bond?

AUSSIE film hunk Hugh Jackman has called on James Bond bosses to make him the new 007. X-Men star Jackman says most names in the race for the superspy role are keeping quiet so they don't harm their chances. He said: "There is something very secretive about the way they cast that role. "I've never had an official call asking: 'Are you interested or not?' "But there's no guy I know who wouldn't want that role - and that includes me. "Anyone who says otherwise is lying."

Race

Jackman, 36, is currently second favourite to take over as Bond, with Irish star Colin Farrell, 28, favourite in the betting. Current 007 Pierce Brosnan has revealed he is mystified at being dropped from the role. A spokesman for bookies Ladbrokes said: "Farrell is the clear favourite to be the next Bond. "Betting on the next 007 has proved one of our more popular showbiz bets." Bond Bets: Colin Farrell 2-1, Hugh Jackman 3-1, Jude Law, Colin Firth 5-1.

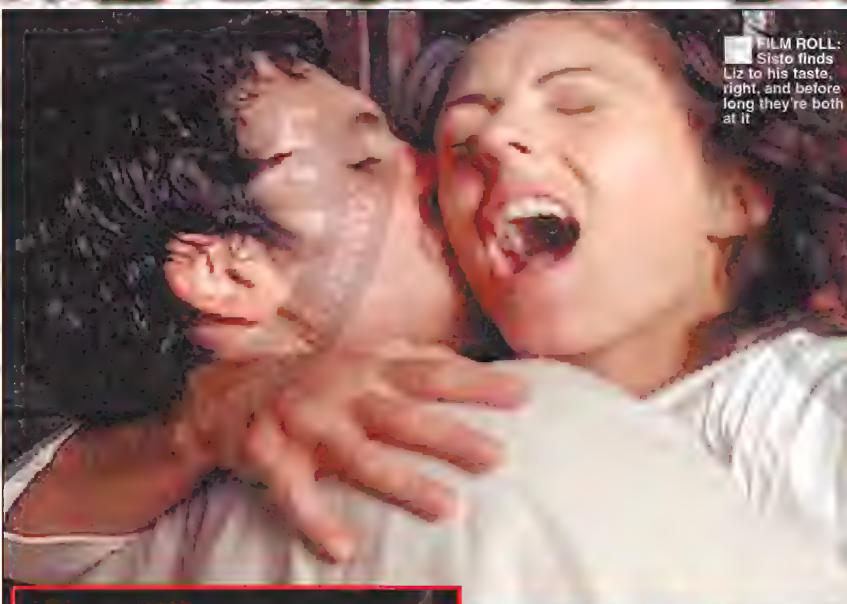
It's Her Maj the Green

THE Queen is planning a green scheme to provide Windsor Castle's electricity. If she gets final planning permission, two hydro-electric turbines at a weir on the nearby River Thames will drive underwater propellers to generate power for at least eight months of the year. The project, thought to cost about £900,000, will be funded by UK company npower Renewables. It complies with the Government's target of producing 10% of all energy from renewable sources by 2010.

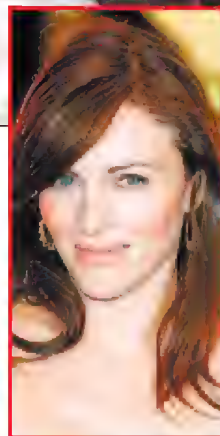
HANDY MANDYS

HANDY Andy is making way for Handy Mandy as 60% of women now do the DIY around the house, a Direct Line survey found.

Liz has a ball in the sexiest scenes she's ever done



FILM ROLL: Sisto finds Liz to his taste, right, and before long they're both at it



Bliss Hurley

■ SIZZLING Elizabeth Hurley serves up her sexiest ever scenes in her latest movie. Luscious Liz stars alongside Six Feet Under hunk Jeremy Sisto in the thriller Method. She plays actress Rebecca Fairbanks who is struggling to stay sane while starring as legendary serial-killer Belle Gunness. The raunchy action takes place after old-flame Jake Fields (Sisto) is cast as her on-screen lover.

■ by JOE FLETCHER Liz, 39, kisses her modesty goodbye as Sisto, 30, enjoys a long lingering nibble of her assets before bonking the beauty up against a wall. A studio insider said: "Elizabeth looks fantastic. It is a very horny scene and fans will be seeing Elizabeth as they have never seen her before." The film will not be released in cinemas and goes direct to video.



WALL FIBED UP: Liz and Sisto get into some steamy action in an alley

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Kate, you make me want to puke

IT'S almost illegal not to like Kate Winslet. If you're keen on fresh air, small children and fish and chips, it's practically compulsory to be a Kate fan. After all, she's so damn down-to-earth she rolls her own.

Who could forget her first wedding to third assistant cameraman from the left Jim Threapleton?

It was in a pub at Reading, Berkshire. The bride and groom tucked into jellied eels and bangers and mash.

So she must be all right, old Kate – an ordinary girl who got lucky.

She's supposed to be the sort of non-actress actress who puts out her rubbish and wheels her trolley round the supermarket.

She's the sort of girl-next-door film star who shows up to a glossy photo-shoot for glitzy Elle magazine and tells them she's just cricked her neck "loading the washing machine".

She's the sort of unassuming type who says in interviews: "People will come up to me in Tesco and say, 'Excuse me, but you ARE her, aren't you?' And I have to take a minute and think, 'Hang on, what are they asking?' And then I say, 'Ooh, yes! I think so! I think I am who you think I am'."

Puh-lease! Who does the woman think she's kidding? All this "I'm just as humdrum, oppressed and down-trodden as you little people" stuff makes me puke.

She isn't anything like Joe or Josephine public.

For one thing, she travels by private jet. We travel by bus or Underground or, at a pinch, easyJet.

She's so fabulously loaded and important, it's actually worth blowing more than a hundred thousand pounds on a single air fare.

That puts her, almost literally, in a different stratosphere, for god's sake.

For another thing, we average £28,000 take-home pay a year.

Kate schleps home with upwards of £5 million per movie, yet another crucial gap in her argument that she's just struggling along like Mrs Average. She's not only Mrs



Mega-League, notching up an annual salary that would go a long way towards paying off Third World debt, she also happens to be married to Mr Moneybags Mendes, a minted Hollywood mover and shaker who could buy and sell her ex, Threapleton, 50 times before breakfast and not even notice.

Mr and Mrs Mendes are so damn average that, just like the rest of us, they shuttle between their palatial homes in London and New York.

I'm sure that's exactly how you fill in YOUR time, dear reader. Buying antiques for your priceless transatlantic pads, trotting on and off your private jet and sweeping up the red carpet in millions of pounds' worth of jewels and a gown graciously bestowed on you by one of the world's top designers?

What? You don't do this?

You don't casually turn down a role in a Woody Allen film because you don't happen to need a few more mill and you fancy spending more time with your family?

What? You wouldn't even turn down a couple of hours of overtime because Christmas is coming and you could do with a few extra quid?

What? You can't actually remember ever wearing a designer dress or dining in Hollywood with Leonardo di Caprio or snogging Johnny Depp or being nominated for not one but two Oscars? Really? You can't?

You mean Kate isn't quite as bog standard as she wants to pretend she thinks she is? Well, knock me over sideways with a feather.

Kate Winslet is the most pretentious actress in Britain. Not because she acts the megastar but because she doesn't.

She thinks we're thick enough to buy into the fiction that she's one of us, hunkering down with the huddled masses.

She isn't. She's oodles richer, infinitely more powerful and a heck of a lot more glamorous than any of us could ever dream of.

So isn't it time she gave her Average Josephine act a rest and admitted being lucky as hell, larging it up and sh*tting £50 notes.

●Puffin' Kate – The Goss, page 16

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BECK HOME

David and Posh eye up Chelsea pad

THE Beckhams are set to bid for a £10million pad a free kick away from Chelsea's ground.

And it has sparked rumours David could be set for a sensational return to England.

He and Victoria are in talks to buy a swanky apartment in Eaton Square, Belgravia — one of the capital's most exclusive addresses. It is

by IAIN BURCHELL

just a mile-and-a-half from Stamford Bridge, fuelling speculation that Beck's is about to sign for the Premiership title-chasers. And one of their neighbours would be the club's megabucks owner Roman Abramovich.

They are thought to be ready to meet the £9.75million asking price for the flat, which is being refurbished to provide four bedroom suites. That would leave plenty of space for sons Brooklyn, five, and Romeo, two, and the baby Victoria is expecting in March.

The flat is owned by theatre impresario Sally Greene, who says it will be a perfect family home.

Freaks

She said: "I think they'll love it. It's absolutely beautiful, with high ceilings, big rooms and gardens."

But snooty residents of Eaton Square say Posh, 30, and Real Madrid star Beck's, 29, aren't welcome.

One said: "Imagine the hordes of paparazzi and fans camping out."

Another said: "The Beckhams are freaks and I don't much care for them."



DREAM PAD: Beckhams and the posh flats in Belgravia

Height of flashin'

IT'S Posh and Breasts! This stunning catwalk model showed off a revealing new look at a fashion show staged by Victoria Beckham.

Pregnant Posh, 30, unveiled her sexy new range of denim jackets, jeans and mini skirts at The Rock and Republic show in Los Angeles. And it proved to be an up-front event.

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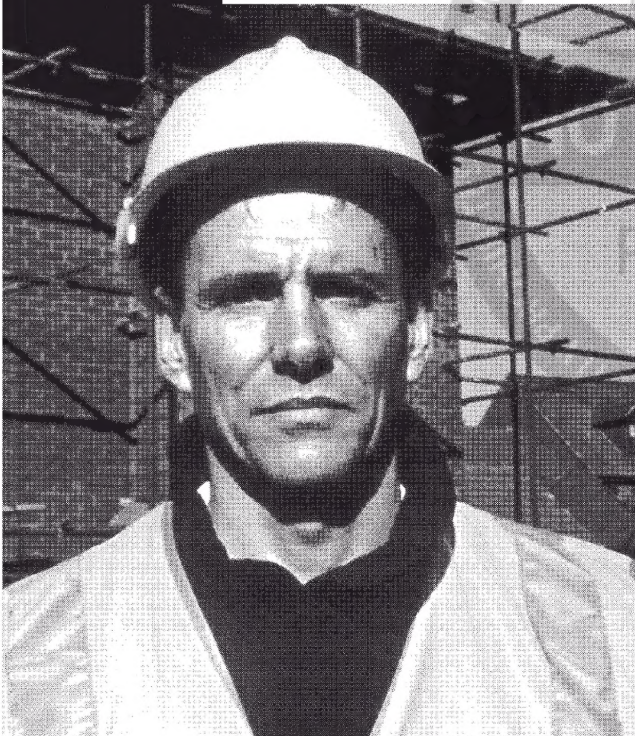
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An Ugg-ly duckling?

UGG boots, OK. Pom-poms... Hmm. Luckily **Rachel Stevens** is gorge and can just pull off the look. And it should keep the stray cats in north London, where she was shopping, amused...



Picture: Cartwright/Carroll

THE GOSS

With KATIE HIND, LEIGH PURVES and AMY WATTS

ROBBIE AND SO SEXED UP

ROBBIE Williams enjoyed a secret date with **Pamela Anderson**, **The Goss** can reveal.

Pammie, 37, joined the Robster, 30, for a candlelit meal at the posh Conrad Hotel, near his home in Chelsea Harbour, London. The stunning mum-of-two took up the offer of a date with the Stoke stud during her visit to the UK to promote her new semi-autobio-

EXCLUSIVE

graphical book *Star*. Despite the fact the pair are involved in other relationships, our moles tell us the chemistry in the air was palpable.

Our tittle-tattler explained: "Pamela really wanted to meet Rob properly. So she asked her people to fix up a dinner. She's had a bit of a crush on him for a while, so although she's attached she couldn't see the harm in striking up a flirty friendship.

"For his part Rob was flattered, he couldn't resist!

"Although the line was drawn at playful banter they made a dynamite combination. It was clear they fancied the pants off each other and I could easily see it growing into something more in different circumstances. "They both recognised they had so much in common.

Lonely

"They're survivors with star quality. They've both just bared their souls - and a lot more besides - in tell-all books. And of course they're both drop-dead gorgeous.

"As Rob has discovered it's lonely at the top, so meeting someone as down-to-earth as he is and yet as unbelievably famous was a real tonic.

"They swapped numbers and vowed to keep in touch back in LA."

Given that the Robster and little Miss Trick Pelvis are



FLATTERED: Robbie Williams

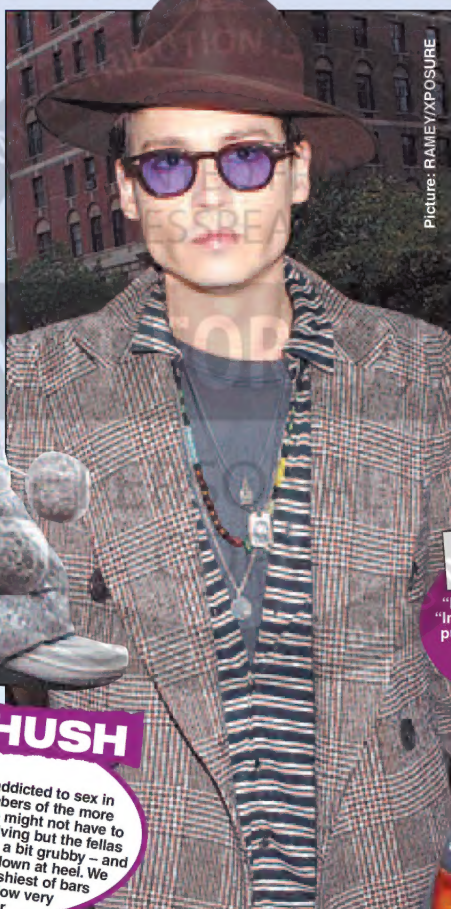
prone to changing partners faster than we go through Jimmy Choos, we wouldn't rule out more dates.

Robbie, who has been house-hunting in Sussex, is back in La La Land after a whirlwind romance with **Lisa Brash**, 30.

But the signs aren't good with Brash - a mum-of-two - already admitting she's prepared for the star not to call. As for Pammie, she's still hot and steamy with model **Christian Monzon**, 26, after dating for a month.

But we can't see a pretty boy keeping up with the woman more used to bedding members of **Motley Crue**.

She's done rock, now it's time for a Rock DJ...



Picture: RAMEY/XPOSURE

Deeply Depp-y

"Hi, my name is **Johnny Depp** and I'm really, really ECCENTRIC. "In case you didn't know this already, I decided to wear some crazy purple glasses, a fedora and clothing from almost all the past five decades to arrive in style at the Regency Hotel in New York.

"Am I wacky or what, huh? And everybody said I was too good-looking to be really interesting.

"Now, come and tell me folks. Where on God's earth did I put those scissors?"

BRAZILIAN babe **Gisele Bündchen** reckons she's a nightmare in bed because she's always accidentally kicking her boyfriends underneath the covers.

The 24-year-old supermodel, who recently split with

Leonardo DiCaprio, says: "If I have someone with me, I kick him out of bed, because I move around a lot. I'm the worst person to sleep with."

We don't reckon that would stop most lads giving it a try, Gisele.

SPOTTED

IN London: EastEnders hunk **Nigel Harman** on a Thameslink train to Elstree reading a thickly-bound book; comedienne **Jo Brand** eating dinner (and no, it wasn't cake) in Pullens near Herne Hill station; Two Pints of Lager and a Packet of Crisps star **Ralf Little** drinking with two mates in the Seven Stars near Ravenscourt Park.

HUSH HUSH

WHICH uptown girl is addicted to sex in public places with members of the more manual professions? She might not have to get her hands dirty for a living but the fellas who turn her on have to be a bit grubby - and as her circle would say, down at heel. We hear she trawls the trashiest of bars to get her kicks. How very risqué of her.

HAVE YOU GOT SOME JUICY GOSSIP FOR US?